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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

YASUMASA TAKAO, ET AL.

SERIAL NO: 09/981,766

FILED: OCTOBER 19, 2001

FOR: FLAME SYNTHESIZED
ALUMINUM NITRIDE FILLER-
POWDER

: EXAMINER: UHLIR, N.

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1773

AEJ/B
#10/10
5/19/03

TC 1700 MAIL ROOM

MAY 14, 2003

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AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated January 9, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in light of the following amendment and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A flame synthesized aluminum nitride filler-powder comprising elements Al, O and N, or elements Al and N, wherein the particle size of the powder is from 0.001 to 500 μm , the mean particle size thereof is from 0.1 to 100 μm , the external shape of the particles is spherical with a ratio of the long-axis diameter to the short-axis diameter being more or less 1:1, and the powder is manufactured continuously in a gas phase in the presence of a flame by using as a raw material powder consisting of element Al, or a mixture of a powder consisting of elements Al and O and a powder consisting of element C.